

exiled Thebans took refuge in Athens where they were organized & bonded together by PELOPIDAS while his friend EPAMINONDAS was training the youths in Thebes

Pelopidas with a few followers reached Thebes in disguise. A magistrate in league with them invited all the officials of the oligarchy except LEONIDAS to attend a banquet & while they were feasting, killed them. Others resisted

Leonidas at his home & killed him also. A democracy was established and Thebes was not freed from control of Sparta and a new Boeotian League was formed. Athens being dissatisfied with their action began negotiations with Sparta. Persia was invited to attend and the treaty of ANTALCIDAS was to be renewed. When it came turn of Thebes to satisfy the treaty, her delegate, EPAMINONDAS refused. He changed military tactics

organized his followers into what was known as the Sacred Band 371 BC. A severe battle took place @ Leuctra (near Thebes) resulting in a complete defeat of the Spartans by Epaminondas & Thebes became supreme.

371 BC. Battle Leuctra

WAR Between Sparta & Thebes

Many cities in HELLENIC had formed a league for self protection, particularly against Macedonia. This league in a short time grew so powerful that Sparta was jealous and so destroyed it, and at the same time PHOCIAS took CADMUS, the citadel of Thebes.

Thebes was now ruled by Aristocrats supported by the Spartans and many of the